GT 10/18/98

MOURNERS SAY GOODBYE AT FUNERAL

IN DEATH, MATTHEW BECAME SYMBOL

Photos by **Jay Janner**/The Gazette

"The right of freedom of choice is the right to hate."

Richard Osborn
74-year-old protester

LEFT: Ted Bucas, Mark Erickson, Scott Collins and Kevan DeGryse, from left, of Denver, embrace at Matthew Shepard's funeral.
ABOVE: Fred Phelps pickets at the funeral.

"A person as caring and as loving as our son Matt would be overwhelmed by what this incident has done to the hearts and souls of people around the world."

Dennis Shepard
victim's father

A man makes his own statement against hate as he watches anti-gay protesters Friday at the funeral for 21-year-old Matthew Shepard in Casper, Wyo.

From all walks of life, they grieve — and sneer

By **Raymond McCaffrey**/The Gazette

CASPER, Wyo. — They came here Friday, a thousand or so in number, to stand in a swirling snowstorm outside an ivy-covered church in which the funeral was to be held for Matthew Shepard: a loved one for some, a symbol for many more.

They came here to Shepard's hometown — the mourners with their yellow ribbons; the protesters with their graphic anti-gay signs; the police with their riot helmets; the members of the media with their giant satellite trucks — to mark the passing of a 21-year-old gay man who, one week after being found beaten unconscious and tied to a fence, had gone from a relatively anonymous University of Wyoming student to nothing less than a major figure in the battle against intolerance.

"We want to thank the citizens of the United States and the people of the world who have expressed their deepest sympathy and condolences to our family during these trying times," the victim's father, Dennis Shepard, said in a prepared statement read to a throng of media at City Hall just hours before the funeral at nearby St. Mark's Episcopal Church.

"A person as caring and as loving

See **FUNERAL**/A3

Corrections in obituaries can be found on the obituaries page. To notify an editor about a mistake, call 636-0266.

The caption for a photograph accompanying a story about Social Security in Friday's Gazette contained an error. Marcea Flowers was not involved with the symposium held in Colorado Springs.

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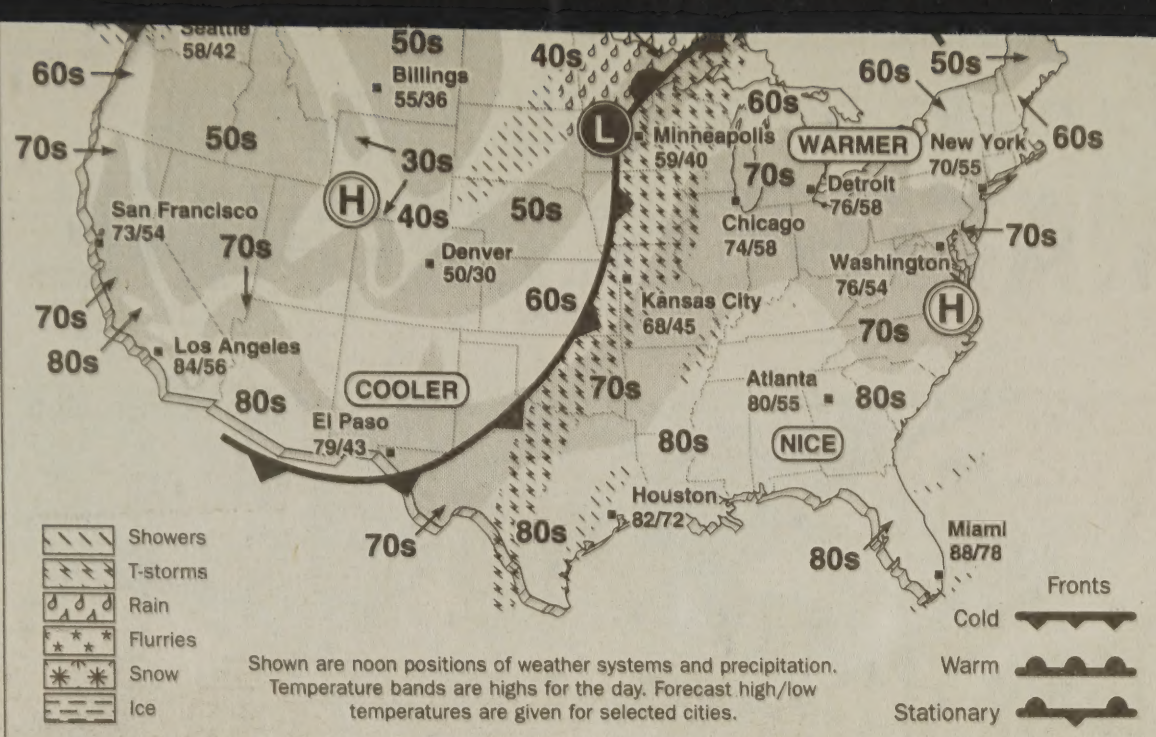
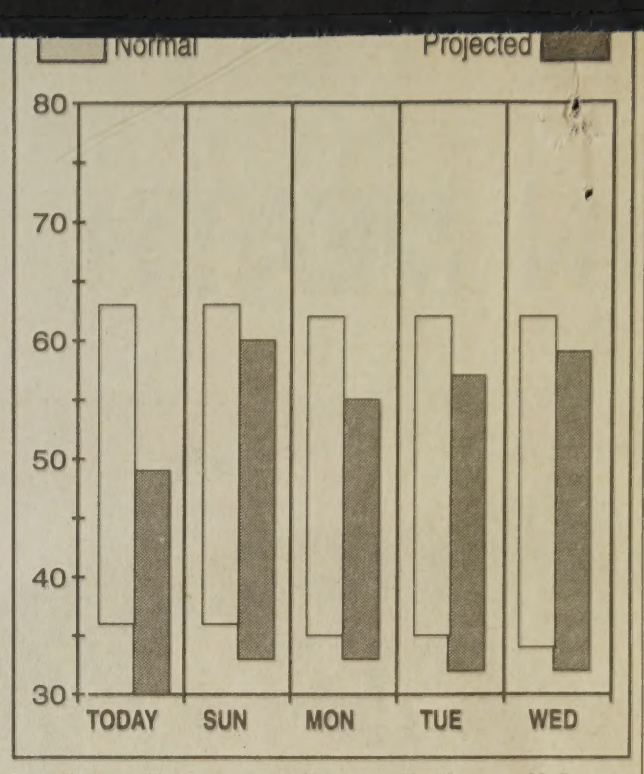


Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day. Forecast high/low temperatures are given for selected cities.



City	Yest.	Today	Sun.	Mon.
Albany, NY	61 38 pc	67 49 pc	74 49 pc	65 42 pc
Albq., NM	68 37 s	64 39 s	71 43 s	70 42 sh
Amarillo, TX	76 47 pc	67 40 s	64 37 s	61 35 sh
Anchorage, AK	42 29 sn	38 28 pc	41 29 sn	39 26 sh
Atlanta, GA	78 55 pc	80 55 s	78 58 s	78 57 c
Atl. City, NJ	68 40 s	69 46 s	76 51 pc	72 46 s
Austin, TX	86 71 pc	84 70 r	77 60 r	78 58 r
Bangor, ME	54 39 c	61 45 pc	66 48 c	62 42 c
Billings, MT	44 34 r	55 36 pc	54 27 pc	50 33 s
Birmingham, AL	83 54 s	83 55 s	77 55 pc	79 56 sh
Bismarck, ND	52 42 r	45 30 r	57 24 pc	42 24 pc
Boise, ID	52 29 s	59 33 s	60 29 s	59 35 s
Boston, MA	62 47 pc	64 54 pc	72 55 c	69 49 pc
Buffalo, NY	64 48 pc	74 57 pc	72 50 pc	59 43 pc
Burlington, VT	56 39 sh	64 52 pc	71 51 c	59 42 sh
Casper, WY	48 33 i	50 30 sn	60 25 pc	52 28 pc
Charleston, SC	80 57 s	80 57 s	83 61 s	83 61 pc
Charleston, WV	76 45 s	79 49 s	80 50 pc	69 48 pc
Charlotte, NC	77 50 s	79 51 s	77 56 s	79 56 pc
Cheyenne, WY	51 33 r	43 30 sn	61 27 s	49 28 pc
Chicago, IL	78 62 c	74 58 sh	64 44 c	57 37 pc
Cincinnati, OH	77 52 pc	79 55 s	72 47 c	65 45 pc
Cleveland, OH	70 51 s	75 56 s	75 46 pc	61 43 pc
Concord, NH	61 35 s	66 44 pc	74 45 c	66 39 pc
Dallas, TX	84 70 c	79 65 r	72 56 sh	71 51 r
Des Moines, IA	74 60 sh	65 48 r	58 37 pc	54 34 pc
Detroit, MI	72 54 c	76 58 c	70 44 sh	60 39 pc
Duluth, MN	58 54 r	57 33 r	47 29 c	41 24 i
El Paso, TX	82 49 s	79 43 s	81 49 pc	77 48 r
Fairbanks, AK	37 22 sn	32 18 sf	32 23 sf	36 20 sn
Fargo, ND	58 48 r	49 32 r	49 27 pc	41 24 i
Flagstaff, AZ	47 19 i	58 25 s	62 29 s	66 31 pc
Grand Isl., NE	68 53 r	64 34 c	61 33 s	54 29 pc
Hartford, CT	65 39 s	69 49 pc	75 50 pc	69 44 s
Hilo, HI	78 69 pc	77 68 pc	79 69 c	81 71 pc
Honolulu, HI	82 70 pc	82 69 pc	82 69 pc	85 70 pc
Houston, TX	86 72 sh	82 72 r	80 61 sh	81 61 r
Indianapolis, IN	79 55 pc	77 56 pc	68 43 sh	62 42 pc

LEGEND: s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice.

City	Yest.	Today	Sun.	Mon.
Jackson, MS	86 57 s	88 58 s	82 57 pc	78 59 r
Jacksonville, FL	83 60 pc	83 59 sh	85 65 pc	84 66 pc
Kansas City, MO	76 64 sh	68 45 r	61 41 s	57 38 pc
Las Vegas, NV	74 44 s	72 52 s	80 51 s	80 53 pc
Little Rock, AR	84 64 sh	80 64 c	73 51 sh	73 51 sh
Los Angeles, CA	76 44 s	84 56 s	82 58 s	83 55 pc
Louisville, KY	80 55 pc	80 57 pc	74 49 sh	68 47 pc
Memphis, TN	82 62 sh	80 63 pc	76 56 sh	75 53 pc
Miami, FL	88 76 pc	88 78 sh	88 76 s	87 78 sh
Milwaukee, WI	73 62 c	71 59 sh	62 40 c	54 37 pc
Minneapolis, MN	64 58 r	59 40 sh	53 32 c	45 28 sh
Nashville, TN	83 55 pc	82 57 s	75 53 c	72 51 pc
New Orleans, LA	86 64 sh	86 65 s	83 65 pc	83 66 c
New York, NY	66 52 pc	70 55 s	79 57 pc	70 54 s
Norfolk, VA	68 50 s	71 52 s	78 58 s	78 57 pc
Oklahoma City	76 64 sh	77 50 sh	64 46 pc	64 44 sh
Omaha, NE	74 59 r	62 43 r	58 34 s	54 30 pc
Orlando, FL	86 68 s	86 70 pc	88 70 pc	88 71 pc
Philadelphia, PA	70 45 s	74 52 s	82 56 pc	73 50 s
Phoenix, AZ	84 52 s	82 58 s	90 63 s	92 63 pc
Pittsburgh, PA	70 46 s	74 52 s	75 49 pc	65 43 pc
Portland, OR	60 46 pc	60 42 sh	59 41 s	64 46 pc
Rapid City, SD	58 38 r	46 32 sn	62 26 pc	50 28 s
Reno, NV	55 24 s	60 31 s	66 30 s	68 32 pc
Richmond, VA	73 44 s	76 48 s	79 54 s	78 52 pc
St. Louis, MO	83 64 pc	76 62 sh	67 47 pc	63 45 pc
Sacramento, CA	76 44 s	80 48 s	83 47 s	80 47 s
Salt Lake City, UT	50 35 sh	55 35 s	61 33 s	61 36 s
San Antonio, TX	84 71 pc	82 72 sh	79 62 r	78 61 r
San Diego, CA	70 52 s	75 55 s	74 58 s	75 57 pc
San Francisco, CA	70 50 s	73 54 s	71 50 s	71 50 s
San Jose, CA	74 50 s	78 51 s	77 50 s	77 50 s
Santa Fe, NM	58 26 pc	59 28 s	62 36 s	64 37 sh
Seattle, WA	58 47 pc	58 42 sh	55 42 pc	60 47 pc
Sioux Falls, SD	68 57 sh	62 36 r	54 29 pc	46 25 pc

City	Yest.	Today	Sun.	Mon.
Tampa, FL	89 65 pc	88 67 s	88 70 s	88 71 pc
Topeka, KS	75 65 sh	69 44 r	60 39 s	58 37 c
Tucson, AZ	78 46 s	82 49 s	87 58 s	90 60 sh
Tulsa, OK	78 66 sh	75 53 sh	66 47 pc	65 45 sh
Washington, DC	70 48 s	76 54 s	84 58 pc	74 52 pc
Wichita, KS	75 64 sh	76 44 c	62 42 s	59 38 sh

CANADA

City	Yest.	Today	Sun.	Mon.
Calgary, Alb.	44 24 sf	52 21 c	40 20 pc	52 34 s
Edmonton, Alb.	47 30 c	49 25 sh	41 24 pc	52 39 s
Montreal, Que.	54 41 pc	59 47 pc	65 51 r	61 40 pc
Ottawa, Ont.	57 44 pc	67 57 c	66 49 sh	60 37 s
Toronto, Ont.	63 48 pc	68 58 c	68 47 sh	62 37 s
Vancouver, B.C.	56 46 sh	50 33 sh	46 40 c	62 54 s
Winnipeg, Man.	51 32 sh	42 25 c	40 25 pc	38 19 pc

WORLD

City	Today	City	Today
Acapulco	90 80 t	Manila	89 74 pc
Amsterdam	54 41 r	Mexico City	75 57 c
Athens	79 61 s	Moscow	41 36 c
Beijing	64 38 s	Nassau	85 71 pc
Beirut	77 68 sh	Oslo	50 41 r
Berlin	63 48 pc	Paris	61 41 r
Brussels	55 40 r	Rio de Janeiro	86 72 t
Buenos Aires	72 61 sh	Riyadh	93 63 s
Cairo	81 59 s	Rome	72 63 s
Copenhagen	54 40 r	San Juan	86 74 pc
Dublin	45 32 c	Seoul	69 53 c
Geneva	57 48 pc	Stockholm	50 45 r
Hong Kong	86 72 s	Sydney	77 68 s
Jerusalem	81 59 s	Tokyo	76 68 r
Kuwait	100 64 s	Vienna	63 50 pc
London	55 36 c	Warsaw	60 48 pc
Madrid	77 51 pc		

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LOTTO

Lotto drawings are held on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

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FOOTBALL FORTUNE

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
VISITOR	3	8	10	8
HOME	10	3	10	7

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National Weather Service's Pueblo Web site: (www.crh.noaa.gov/pub).

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Funeral/'Amazing Grace' fills air

From A1

as our son Matt would be overwhelmed by what this incident has done to the hearts and souls of people around the world."

Indeed, they came to Matthew Shepard's funeral to express their deepest sympathy: the 700 or so who packed into St. Mark's for the midday service; the hundreds who couldn't get into the church and streamed into nearby First Presbyterian Church to simply hear an audio feed of the service; the other mourners who huddled under umbrellas near the protesters in City Park, listening on the radio to the Rt. Rev. Bruce Caldwell, who celebrated the service across the street.

"Lord, you consoled Martha and Mary in their distress: Draw near to us who mourn for Matthew, and dry the tears of those who weep."

They also came — people like those in the giant TV satellite trucks — to cover a story that began in a small Laramie bar where Shepard met the two men alleged to have beaten him; a story that ended up with a pronouncement from the president of the United States and a debate about the need for hate-crime laws.

They came to be part of what local officials were calling the biggest event in recent history: an event where police patrolled the area outside the church with dogs, apparently related to death threats against the protesters; where public schools lowered their flags to half-staff and recognized a moment of silence at 1:30 p.m., the time Matthew's service was to begin; where the City Council enacted an emergency ordinance restricting the amount of time people could protest near funeral sites.

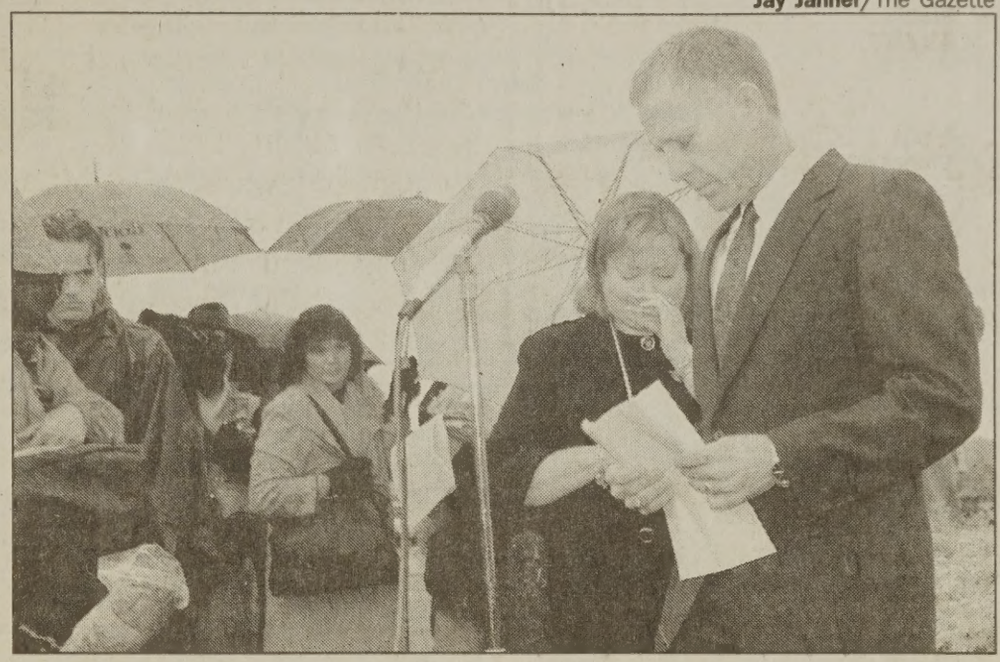
They came — like Richard Osborn, a 74-year-old veteran who carried a sign reading, "Get Back in Your Damn Closet" — to talk about freedom and hate.

"The right of freedom of choice is the right to hate," Osborn said.

They came — people like Karl Hockenbarger, who traveled here with fellow members from Westboro Baptist Church in Topeka, Kan., so he could carry a sign reading, "God Hates Fags" — to protest in a specially-designated fenced area across from the church as helmeted state troopers watched.

"Just to present some truth of God in this orgy," Hockenbarger said.

Jay Janner/The Gazette



The parents of Matthew Shepard, Judy and Dennis Shepard, right, speak to reporters Friday in Casper, Wyo.

They came here — people like Amber Miller — to shout down Hockenbarger and his crowd. "It doesn't say anywhere in the Bible to hate fags!" she screamed at them.

They came — like 26-year-old Tassma Powers of Casper — to try to figure out the protesters. "We were trying to understand why these people were here."

They came — like a young man from Chicago who never knew Shepard but booked a flight here for the funeral immediately after hearing of his death — to stand in line outside the church, then turn toward the protesters and erupt, with others, in song:

"Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me . . ."

They came — like the students who cut classes at Natrona County High School, which Shepard once attended — wearing special ribbons made by classmates: green circles on a yellow background symbolizing peace and anti-violence.

"I think it's right that we be here," said 17-year-old Jeanette Fink. "That we stand up for what's right."

They came — like 57-year-old Sharon Long of Casper — because they knew people, who knew Shepard, because they cared about the issues his death had raised — namely hate.

"This is a serious issue in this . . . country," Long said. "I think of that old Kris Kristofferson song — everybody gotta have somebody to look down on."

They came — like 21-year-old Nicole Reback, who stood in the park where people wore buttons with sayings like "Ain't No Time To Hate" and carried pictures of Matthew — to remember a classmate they barely knew. "I know who he was. I saw him in junior high in the lobby."

They came — like 41-year-old Renee Brown of Fort Collins — with bouquets of flowers: white roses set among Easter lilies, designed to send a message: "Against hate," Brown said.

They came — like Casper resident Dana Juliussen — to hand out fliers with the words "Love One Another!!!"

They came — like 25-year-old Marlis Slater, who grew up a mile from the Laramie bar where Shepard met the men who are accused of killing him — to serve as a different kind of symbol.

"A symbol of a young generation that isn't going to tolerate it," said Slater, who added she was ashamed of what took place in her hometown.

"It upsets the soul."

Finally, they came to try to put the horror of Shepard's death in perspective and — as they left St. Mark's amid snow so heavy it was snapping branches from nearby trees — to try to put the horror behind them.

...will allow ...to pork

...sional pet projects

import duties paid, estimated at $4 million a year. House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Bill Archer, R-Texas, won those changes.

House Speaker Newt Gingrich, R-Ga., was losing an effort to help peanut farmers seeking to overturn a Transportation Department order barring peanuts from domestic flights where a passenger has a medically documented peanut allergy.

House and Senate negotiators and staff met all day to translate the agreement into legislation as some lawmakers launched 11th-hour bids to get their projects into the final bill.

...tion to release

pleadings before the court. Those excerpts already have been made public. There was no explanation why the complete deposition wasn't among the 214 sealed documents at the court.

Wright has not specified what would be released but has said the court needs more time to address privacy concerns.

Wright dismissed Jones' lawsuit April 1.

FBI offers training for local response to terrorist attacks

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Attorney General Janet Reno trumpeted a new FBI office Friday that will offer local police, fire and rescue workers one-stop shopping for federal training and equipment to respond to chemical, biological or nuclear attacks by terrorists.

The FBI's new National Domestic Preparedness Office "will assume overall responsibility for coordinating the government's efforts to prepare America's communities for terrorist incidents involving weapons of mass destruction," Reno said.

The new program "is trying to address the issues that first responders have raised and create a two-way street so that we hear from them . . . ," Reno said.

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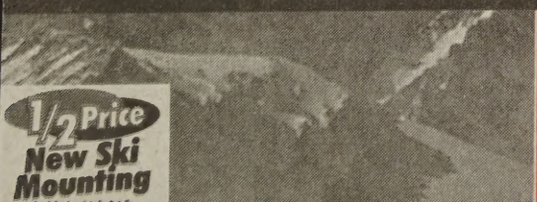

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